

**Title of Regulation****Regulation No.: 43-62****REQUIREMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL  
AREAS OF CERTIFICATION****Effective Date: 06/26/15****Constitutional and Statutory Provisions:**

## Section(s):

59-5-60(1). General powers of [State] Board  
59-25-110. System for examination and certification of teachers  
59-26-10, et seq. Training, Certification, and Evaluation of Public Educators

Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976.

20 U.S.C. § 6301, et seq. No Child Left Behind Act of 2001  
U.S. Code of Laws

**State Board Regulation**

43-62. Requirements for Additional Areas of Certification.

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

A. Individuals who desire to add a full-field content area of certification to an existing certificate must complete a State Board of Education–approved program and present a passing score on the appropriate content-area examination(s) in the specific subject field, or complete the content area add-on certification requirements specified in the State Board of Education–approved Guidelines and Requirements for Content Area Add-on Certification and Endorsements.

B. In addition to adding on full-field content areas to an existing certificate, an individual may add endorsements in specialized areas to recognize additional expertise. In some instances, an endorsement may be required to teach specific courses. In other instances, the endorsement represents additional training and study to enhance an educator’s professional practice. In order to add an endorsement, an educator must complete the specific requirements for that area as outlined in the State Board of Education–approved Guidelines and Requirements for Content Area Add-on Certification and Endorsements.

C. In the event that the State Board of Education should eliminate, revise, or adopt new certification areas, currently certified individuals who are affected may retain the areas of certification for which they previously qualified. However, the State Board of Education may require previously certified individuals to upgrade their certification by completing the new requirements within a specified period of time.

D. The following designations apply to the grade spans for teacher certification in South Carolina, effective September 1, 2005.

**CERTIFICATION GRADE SPANS**

Early Childhood = pre-Kindergarten–grade 3

Elementary = grades 2–6

Middle-level = grades 5–8

Secondary = grades 9–12

The areas of art, music, physical education, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), foreign languages, theater, and exceptional children education have a pre-Kindergarten (pre-K–12) grade span, with the exception of Early Childhood Special Education.

E. Instructional areas may not be added to certificates in guidance, media specialist, or school psychologist unless the applicant has completed a teacher education program designed and approved for initial certification purposes.

F. Certification is divided into five sections: (1) content area, (2) exceptional children education, (3) career and technology education, (4) specialized endorsements, and (5) specialized alternative certification.

## **II. CONTENT AREA ADD-ON CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

A. The add-on of a content area of certification to an existing valid certificate allows the educator to practice and be considered in-field in that additional content area. Prerequisites for adding-on a content area to a current certificate are the following:

1. Bachelor's degree;
2. Initial or professional certificate at the early childhood, elementary, middle, secondary, or pre-K–12 Level;
3. Minimum qualifying score(s) on the content area examination(s) required by the State Board of Education; and
4. Completion of all required course work with an equivalent of a grade of "C" or better.

B. The following content areas may be added to an existing valid certificate. Specific requirements for each area will be outlined in the State Board of Education–approved Guidelines and Requirements for Content Area Add-on Certification and Endorsements.

1. Art
2. Driver Education
3. Early Childhood Education
4. Elementary Education
5. English
6. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
7. Gifted and Talented
8. Health Education
9. Mathematics
10. Middle-level Education
11. Music Education
12. Physical Education
13. Science
14. Social Studies
15. Theater
16. World Languages
17. Literacy

### III. EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN ADD-ON CERTIFICATION

A. The add-on of a content area of certification to an existing valid certificate allows the educator to practice and be considered in-field in the additional content area. Prerequisites for adding-on a content area to a current certificate are the following:

1. Bachelor's degree;
2. Initial or professional certificate at the early childhood, elementary, middle, secondary, or pre-K–12 Level;
3. Minimum qualifying score(s) on the content area examination(s) required by the State Board of Education; and
4. Completion of all required course work with an equivalent of a grade of "C" or better.

B. The following areas of special education may be added to an existing valid certificate. Specific requirements for each area will be outlined in the State Board of Education–approved Guidelines and Requirements for Content Area Add-on Certification and Endorsements.

1. Early Childhood Special Education (Ages 3–6)
2. Education of Blind and Visually Impaired
3. Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing
4. Emotional Disabilities
5. Learning Disabilities
6. Intellectual Disabilities
7. Multi-categorical Special Education
8. Severe Disabilities
9. Speech Language Therapist Requirements for this area are included in R 43-64 under Requirements for Certification at the Advanced Level

### IV. CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY ADD-ON CERTIFICATION

A. The add-on of a career and technology area of certification to an existing valid certificate allows the educator to practice and be considered in-field in the additional content area. Prerequisites for adding-on a content area to a current certificate are the following:

1. Bachelor's degree;
2. Initial or professional certificate at the early childhood, elementary, middle, secondary, or pre-K–12 Level;
3. Minimum qualifying score(s) on the content area examination(s) required by the State Board of Education; and
4. Completion of all required course work with an equivalent of a grade of "C" or better.

B. The following areas may be added to an existing valid Career and Technology certificate. Specific requirements for each area will be outlined in the State Board of Education–approved Guidelines and Requirements for Content Area Add-on Certification and Endorsements.

1. Agriculture
2. Business and Marketing Technology
3. Computer Programming (for Career and Technology programming courses)
4. Family and Consumer Science
5. Industrial Technology

## **V. SPECIALIZED ENDORSEMENTS**

A. In addition to adding on full-field content areas to an existing certificate, an individual may add endorsements in specialized areas to recognize additional expertise. In some instances, an endorsement may be required to teach specific courses. In other instances, the endorsement represents additional training and study to enhance an educator's professional practice. In order to add an endorsement, an educator must complete the specific requirements for that area as outlined in the State Board of Education–approved Guidelines and Requirements for Content Area Add-on Certification and Endorsements.

B. The following specialized endorsements may be added to an existing valid certificate:

1. Online Teaching
2. Teaching Children of Poverty
3. Advanced Placement
4. Gifted and Talented
5. Literacy Teacher
6. Literacy Coach
7. Literacy Specialist
8. Secondary Transition Specialist
9. Project-based Learning
10. Teacher Leader
11. Computer Science

## **VI. Specialized Alternative Certification**

### **A. ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR**

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

1. The individual must have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university, and

2. A school district in the state must be willing to employ the individual as a teacher on a part-time basis in a content field at the middle or secondary school level, or in the related arts or physical education at the elementary level.

#### **Application Requirements**

3. The applicant must

(a) complete the application process for South Carolina educator certification, including an all-clear fingerprint review;

(b) have earned a bachelor's degree or higher with a major in the field of certification, or must submit passing scores on the content certification exam(s) required for the certification area; and

(c) submit verification of five years of occupational experience within the past ten years in, or related to, the content field of the certificate for which the individual is applying; and

4. The school district seeking to employ the individual must provide the following documentation to the Office of Educator Certification:

- (a) a request and justification for employment of the instructor,
- (b) an assurance that the employment of this instructor will not displace a certified teacher already employed, and
- (c) an assurance that the adjunct instructor's teaching assignment will be less than a .5 full-time equivalent position and will not exceed two credit-bearing courses in an academic year.

#### Stipulations

The following stipulations apply to the South Carolina Adjunct Teaching Certificate:

- 5. The Adjunct Teaching Certificate is valid only in the sponsoring school district and is not transferrable to any other school district or state.
- 6. The adjunct instructor must be assigned a state-certified mentor in the same general subject area(s) in which the instructor is assigned to teach.
- 7. The adjunct instructor must be evaluated annually by the school district and must receive successful performance reviews for the certificate to be reissued for subsequent years at the request of the sponsoring school district.
- 8. The adjunct instructor must complete a minimum of 20 contact hours of professional development approved by the employing school district each three-year period the certificate is held.
- 9. The salary for the adjunct instructor will be determined by the employing school district.

#### B. ADVANCED FINE ARTS

1. Teachers for advanced fine arts programs who do not meet the requirements for certification in any existing area of certification will be issued an initial teaching certification if all of the following requirements are met:

- (a) The school district has in operation an advanced program in the fine arts that has been approved by the South Carolina Department of Education.
- (b) The school district superintendent requests certification for the prospective teacher in writing, describing the situation in which the teacher will work and the exact nature of the proposed duties of the teacher.
- (c) The candidate has earned an undergraduate or graduate degree in fine arts from a nationally or regionally accredited institution of higher education or an institution that has programs approved for teacher education by the State Board of Education in the area of the fine arts that the teacher is to teach.
- (d) The candidate presents evidence of at least two years of successful professional experience in the area of the fine arts that he or she is expected to teach.

(e) The candidate presents an acceptable score(s) on the required teaching content-area examination(s).

2. The initial certificate in Advanced Fine Arts will be issued for three years. It can be renewed in accordance with R 43-5(I)(A). A total of twelve (12) semester hours of credit, which includes teaching methods and psychology of learning in graduate professional education, will be required for professional certification.

3. In addition to the graduate professional education requirement specified above, the initial certificate will be converted to the professional certificate upon successful completion of induction requirements, ADEPT, and the pedagogy examination required by the State Board of Education.

### **C. MONTESSORI**

#### **1. Levels of Montessori Certification**

Primary (3K–5K)

Elementary I (Grades 1–3)

Elementary II (Grades 4–6)

Middle (Grades 6–8)

2. Individuals who wish to add Montessori to an existing certificate must meet the following requirements.

(a) Bachelor's degree

(b) Initial or professional certificate at the appropriate level (early childhood, elementary, middle, or pre-K–12 level \*)

(c) Completion of a training program at the appropriate level accredited by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE)

\*A minimum qualifying score on the content area examination(s) required by the State Board of Education for early childhood, elementary, or middle level certification is also required for individuals with a prerequisite certificate in a pre-K–12 field who wish to add the appropriate Montessori level.

3. Individuals who wish to qualify for initial Montessori certification must complete a State Board of Education–approved undergraduate or graduate teacher preparation program in early childhood, elementary, or middle-level with a Montessori emphasis (i.e., includes all requirements for a MACTE training program) AND submit passing scores on the certification examinations approved by the State Board of Education at the appropriate level.

**OR**

4. Verify completion of a bachelor's degree, a MACTE-approved training program, and passing scores on the appropriate certification examination(s) approved by the State Board of Education, including the pedagogy exam. Additional certification fields may not be added to an initial Montessori certificate under this option unless the educator completes a State Board of Education–approved teacher preparation program in the additional field.